



August General Meeting

August 7, 2001
7:30 PM
Casa Del Prado
Room 101
By Ben Machado, 1st VP

We have a very interesting speaker coming from Australia. Jim Cootes is making his first speaking tour in the U.S. and our society is included. His presentation is titled "An Overview of Philippine Orchid Species."

Here are a few words Jim has to say about himself:

"I started growing orchids about 1975. Served my apprenticeship growing Hybrid Cattleyas. A couple of years later I discovered species. First visited the Philippines in 1997, on the urging of Filipino workmates and have been there at least once a year since. I lived permanently in the Philippines from 1997 to 2000 and have my own house there and will retire there when the time comes.

My interest in Philippine orchids started in the early 1980's, growing into an obsession about 1990 when I decided to write a book on the Orchids of the Philippines. I have written many articles for orchid magazines world-wide.

I began studying Philippine orchid species since 1985 and have put the results of these studies into my book. The book has descriptions and colour photographs of over 330 taxa. Many of the species, may not have been previously illustrated. The book has 33 bulbophyllums, 7 cirrhopetalums, 7 coelogynes, 67 dendrobiums, 34 dendrochilums, 16 erias, 7 grammatophyllums, 16 paphiopedilums, 19 phalaenopsis and 10 vandas to name some of the more commonly grown genera. There is also a host of the so-called "botanical" genera and species. Many of the photographs have been taken by David P. Banks and David's photographic tutor, David Titmuss and are of superb quality. Gary Yong Gee, who won an American Orchid Society photographic competition a number of years back, has also contributed pictures.

I have 2 species named in my honour, *Bulbophyllum cootesii* and *Dendrochilum cootesii*."

Crest Orchids will provide the plants for our Plant Opportunity Table. To compliment Jim Cootes' presentation they will feature Philippine and Thai species and hybrids mixed with a few Cattleyas and Dendrobiums.

San Diego County Orchid Society

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If you have monthly meetings, classifieds, or announcements related to orchids, make sure the information gets to the editors by the Second Friday of each month for publishing in the next issue of this newsletter.

To contact the editors, please email Michael Orser or David Gramham at editor@sdorchids.com.

Advertisers please contact Marjorie Kuhlmann at 858.675.0885 or kuhlmann@utm.net under the same deadline.

Stop the Slime: You don't have to put up with snails

from the San Diego Union Tribune
by Vincent Lazaneo

It's not unusual to hear people say their gardens are overrun with snails this time of year. Snails are continually active throughout the year in our moderate climate but their activity peaks during spring and early summer.

People also are more active in their gardens at the same time and readily notice the damage that snails cause.

An irrigated garden looks like a big salad bar to hungry snails. They completely devour sproutlike seedlings and succulent shoot tips on older plants. Snails also chew irregular holes with smooth edges in leaves on a variety of plants and occasionally damage fruit and young bark on stems.

The snail seen most often in our gardens is the brown garden snail, *Helix aspersa*. The tasty mollusk was originally brought to California from Europe in the 1850s for culinary use and has since become a pest of many edible and ornamental plants in much of the state.

Parts of San Diego County are now also infested with the white garden snail, *Theba pisana*, a native of the

San Diego County Orchid Society

OUR PURPOSE: *To promote interest in orchids and their cultivation, to educate by exchanging information and experiences related to successful orchid culture, and to support the conservation of orchids in the wild.*

SDCOS meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at Casa Del Prado in Balboa Park. We invite you to join the society to receive the monthly newsletter and many other benefits

Beginner's Class: 6:30 pm, Room 104
General Meeting: 7:30 pm, Room 101

If you would like to join the society, please send your check for \$10* for individual, \$12.50 for Dual membership, payable to SDCOS, to: Vivian Folmer, SDCOS Membership, 13127 Roundup, San Diego, CA 92129. Telephone: 619.538.6187, email: vivianfolmer@netscape.net

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Mediterranean region. Adult white garden snails are about the size of a nickel with a dirty white shell. During hot, dry weather, they have a habit of climbing high up on trees, fences, and walls where they remain clustered until there is sufficient rain or irrigation.

Both snails are active at night or on cloudy or foggy days. When the sun comes out they seek shelter in cool shady places. Snails remain hidden during the day and the only clues to their presence are their silvery trails of dried slime and plant damage.

Snails move slowly but they multiply faster than rabbits.

Adult brown garden snails dig holes in moist soil and lay up to 80 eggs at a time, as often as six times a year. Each new generation of snails matures in about two years and snails of all ages continue to feed on plants until something or someone stops them.

Bait basics

When snails become numerous and cause too much damage people often use toxic bait to control them. Snail baits are easy to use and may seem harmless but they can poison children and pets and should not be used if they have access to them. Baits that contain metaldehyde are very attractive and toxic to dogs.

Recently registered baits containing iron phosphate sold as Sluggo and Worryfree slug and snail bait are safer for domestic animals and wildlife. When bait is used never pile it in mounds or clumps because this makes it more attractive to children and animals.

Metaldehyde does not kill snails directly unless they eat a substantial amount of it. Snails that have eaten metaldehyde excrete a large quantity of mucus in an attempt to detoxify the chemical.

When the weather is sunny and warm snails quickly die from loss of water. When it is cool and wet though, snails may recover if they have eaten a sub-lethal dose.

Metaldehyde breaks down quickly when exposed to sunlight; however, Deadline, a thick liquid formulation, does not. Deadline also holds up well in wet weather and does not have a problem with sub-lethal doses.

To improve the effectiveness of metaldehyde bait, water during the day to promote snail activity, then apply bait in the late afternoon and do not water again for three or four days. Scatter bait lightly on open ground along the edges of ground cover and near other plants where snails hide. Snails that feed on bait in open areas will be paralyzed and die when exposed to sunlight the next day.

Iron phosphate baits break down much slower than metaldehyde and may remain effective for several weeks even after irrigation. Snails that have eaten even a small amount of iron phosphate will stop feeding although it

may take several days for them to die.

Enemy attack

Bait quickly kills snails but it does not provide long-term control unless it is reapplied periodically. A more sustainable and less costly alternative is to control snails with a natural enemy, the decollate snail, *Rumina decollata*.

This predatory snail feeds on the eggs and young of the brown garden snail. Decollate snails do not feed on adult brown garden snails but they prevent their reproduction, which effectively controls their population.

Decollate snails have a conical shell that ends in a blunt tip. The snail grows about 1 inch long and lives about two years.

Under favorable conditions each snail can lay up to 2,000 eggs during its life. Even with this high reproductive potential it can take two to four years from the time decollates are released in a landscape for them to completely control brown garden snails.

Gardeners can buy decollate snails at some local nurseries and from mail order sources including Mary's Decollates, 760.744.9233 or e-mail goodsnaile@abac.com, and Rincon-Vitova Insectaries, 800.248.2847.

Because the decollate snails may kill some endangered mollusks they cannot be released north of Santa Barbara County.

Snail bait is lethal to decollates so wait 45 to 60 days after baiting before releasing decollates.

Before shipping, the predatory snails are deprived of water to put them in an inactive state. To wake them up, place them in a shallow pan with about an eighth-inch of water. They should become active within 30 minutes. Be careful not to submerge them or they will drown.

Put 50 to 100 decollate snails at one or several places in ground covers infested with brown garden snails. Decollates can also be released in other landscape plantings and under citrus trees where accumulated leaf litter and regular irrigation provide favorable habitat.

Don't release decollates near newly planted annuals or vegetables since they may munch very young seedlings.

Water the area first; make sure the snails have some leaf litter to eat and hide under. Regular sprinkling or drip irrigation will provide optimum conditions. You can put out food initially to ensure a high survival rate; try discarded lettuce leaves or other vegetable and fruit scraps.

While decollates are becoming established do not apply snail bait in areas where they have been released. To control problem snails handpick them at night or crush and leave them for decollates to eat. Snails can also be collected

during the day from traps made with flat pieces of lumber raised off the ground with 1-inch runners.

Copper block

Several types of barriers will keep snails out of planting bed. The easiest to maintain are those made with copper flashing and screens.

Copper barriers are effective because copper reacts with the slime that the snail secretes, causing a flow of electricity.

Vertical copper screens can be erected around planting beds. The screen should be 6 inches tall and buried several inches below the soil to prevent slugs from crawling beneath the soil.

Copper foil (for example, Snail Barr) can be wrapped around planting boxes, headers, or trunks to repel snails for several years. When banding trunks, wrap the copper foil around the trunk, tab side down, and cut it to allow an 8 inch overlap. Attach one end or the middle of the band to the trunk with one staple oriented parallel to the trunk. Overlap and fasten the ends with one or two larger paper clips to allow the copper band to slide as the trunk grows. Bend the tabs out at a 90-degree angle from the trunk.

The bands need to be cleaned occasionally with steel wool.

When using copper bands on planter boxes, be sure the soil within the boxes is snail-free before applying bands. If it is not, handpick the snails from the soil after applying the band until the box is free of these pests.

PESTS AND PROBLEMS

<http://www.orchid.org.uk/>

PESTS.

Orchids generally do not suffer from the usual plethora of ailments which affect many of our favorite garden plants, this is for two reasons, firstly many of the species and hybrids we grow are alien to our local atmosphere, and consequently also alien to many pests and diseases we find outdoors, and the second one is that because of the fact that we grow them mainly indoors they are not exposed to the problem in the first place.

Unfortunately, when a problem occurs it can be difficult to eradicate once it gains a foothold.

Here are a few, in no particular order:

Slugs, even if you think you haven't got any problem with these night-time assassins, you should always be vigilant for their silvery trails, sprinkle at regular intervals with a good slug liquid, and if you feel adventurous, take a torch-light trip into the growing area after dark, a good well aimed boot is something they have not grown immune to.

Weevils, when you wonder why there is suddenly a hole in one of your best grown leaves, or chunks missing out of its margin, then most likely you have weevils, arm yourself with a bottle of something suitable from the garden centre and follow the instructions. It's no use spraying them once, you must have strict regime of spraying every 5 days or so over a period of three weeks to eradicate most pests and their eggs as they hatch.

Scale, there are two types of scale which you are likely to encounter when growing orchids.

The first one attacks Phaleanopsis in particular, and can migrate to most other soft leaved plants, look on the underside of the leaves for these hard brown limpet like creatures, if you have only one or two, wipe them off with a cloth soaked in methylated spirits, or resort to a systemic insecticide regime as mentioned in the above paragraph, systemic insecticides act by being absorbed into the plant tissue, effectively making the plant poisonous to its attacker, but they should be used with care, do not exceed the stated dosage to avoid damaging the plant.

The other can be very nasty, and primarily has a taste for Cattleya's and their cousins, this is Boisduval scale, a very fancy name for a real horror, you may notice flat round scales on the underside of the leaves, which if left unattended will produce a whole shipment of what appears at first to be a white fungus or mealybug, these are the nymphs by the thousand, and they are setting off to desiccate the rest of your collection, the problem we have in the UK is that it is a tropical insect, and many of our pesticides do not treat the problem, one we have found to be of use recently is Leavington's Natures Answer Insecticide and Fungicide combined, this does unfortunately cover the plant in what appears to be white dust, but it is very effective against this type of scale, and several other pests as well, you will probably have to give the plant a good cleaning after a couple of weeks or so for aesthetics.

Mealybug, usually appears as a cotton wool ball around leaf axils, or inside the sheaths of new shoots, the above fungicide. pesticide soon sees them off, but again if its very localized, then methylated spirits on a cotton bud sees them off wonderfully.

Thrips, greenfly, blackfly, spider mite, they all find a niche somewhere, the latter is another difficult customer to deal with, and in addition to spraying, it is a good idea to wipe the leaves and stems of infected plants with a meth soaked cloth, every few days if necessary to kill the eggs.

One home made cure can be produced in the kitchen if you want a non toxic insecticide, here is the recipe for you to try at your own risk.

Six heaped teaspoons of ascorbic acid (vitamin C.) three teaspoon of plant friendly detergent (non ionic) and a pint of water, spray onto aphids and suchlike, the mixture

will kill any insects which absorb oxygen through their skin, but not their eggs.

As prevention is always better than a cure, treat new plants with respect, quarantine them if possible, try not to let intake fans suck air in from anywhere near a flower border or hedge, and always be prepared to sacrifice a "well infected" plant for the sake of the rest.

SPOTS AND DISEASES.

Orchids can fall foul of leaf rot, mildew, botrytis and many other pathogens, by and large, providing there is a good air movement around the plant, and that by nightfall the leaves are fairly dry, then fungal infections should not be a problem, and correction of the bad condition, along with a fungal spray (check with the garden centre that it is safe for orchids) should do the trick, a fast fix for a localized leaf infection is to dust a little cinnamon onto the infected area !

It is very difficult if you have a plant suffering from a virus disease to identify which particular type it is, and most likely a useless exercise anyway, as viruses are almost impossible to cure, thankfully, providing you are hygienic around the growing area, and that any tools used on the plants are thoroughly sterilized after use between different plants, you should not encounter this type of problem.

SYMPTOMS. POSSIBLE CAUSE

Irregular markings on leaves, discolored or uneven patches on flowers - possible viral infection
Uneven pieces removed from leaf border - weevils
Un-natural silvery underside to leaves - spider mite
Silvery trails on plants and benches - slugs or snails
Holes in leaves or flower stems or flowers - slugs or snails
Dark mildew on leaves, hard limpet creatures underside of leaves - common scale
Cotton wool type of stuff (brownish creature inside of mass) - mealybug
Flat scales on underside of leaves and or tiny white fluffy masses - boisduval scale
Depressed dark spots possibly with lighter ring round them - fungal infection
Limp flaccid leaves on Phaleanopsis etc. - root problems

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Dark brown or whitened patches on - leaf sunburn
Yellow or very light green leaves but plant flowers - too much light
Dark green leaves but plant does not flower - too little light
Flower buds develop then turn yellow and drop off - shock
Leaf tips turn brown - over feeding
Honey dew on leaves - greenfly
plant falls out of pot - earthquake

TREATMENT

The treatment of orchids should be carried out giving due consideration to the instructions for use and safety provided by the manufacturers of the control substances we list below; solutions which we have used and found to be satisfactory for ourselves, the decision to try one or more of these in your environment must be yours and made under your own responsibility.

PROBLEM TREATMENT

Viral infections there is no known cure, burn the plant
Weevils - Bifenthrin
Spider mites - (see below) Bifenthrin, Pirimiphos methyl,, Malathion
Slugs and snails - Metaldehyde, Methiocarb, Aluminiumsulphate
Common scale - Dimethoate, Malathion, Insecticidal soap
Boisduval scale- Sulphur and fatty acid mixture
Mealybug - Malathion, Insecticidal soap, Sulphur/fatty acids
Fungal infections - Sulphur, Cinnemon powder
Root problems - Remove dead roots, and repot if in time,

usually due to overwatering

Sunburn - re-site orchid giving correct amount of shading
Shock - identify cause, (could be severe temperature light or humidity change) and correct
Overfeeding - thoroughly flush pot through with clean water, repot if necessary
Greenfly - Sulphur/fatty acids, insectecial soap, Dimethoate, Malathion

Spider mites like dry conditions, and can be difficult to eradicate, if you only have an infestation on one plant, make life unpleasant for them, water the plant, and place it in a clear plastic bag, blow the bag up with your mouth and tie off, leave the plant there for a few days or so as long as it does not appear stressed, the humidity which will build up inside the bag will create a hostile environment for the mites, but of course their eggs may survive, and you may have to repeat this several times to eradicate them.



Dave Reid

of Dave Reid's Orchids.

If you did not come to last month's Beginner's Meeting, then you missed out on his tricks of the trade for repotting!

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HELP HOTLINE

The SDCOS offers this service to members who seek cultural information about their orchids. Here are some friendly hobbyists with a great deal of experience about certain types of orchids, and who have kindly volunteered to answer your questions.

Cattleyas, Oncidium/Odonts, Vandaceous,
Greenhouse grown, West SD County
Forrest Robinson - 619.270.6105

Species, all types, Indoor and Outdoor
[Ann & Paul Tuskes](#) - 858.274.5829

Paphiopedilums
Ann Tuskes - 858.274.5829
Bob Hodges - 619.461.4915

Phalaenopsis, Cattleyas, and Dendrobiums
Bob Swanson - 619.465.2297

Vandas, Ascocendas
Edith and Leno Galvan - 619.441.7503

Encyclias, Epidendrums, Laelias
Tom Osborn - 760.787.0282

Pleurothallids
Don van Kekerix - 619.224.4938

Cymbidiums
Loren Batchman - casa@orquideas.com
Sam DeMaria - 619.295.2951

Northeast County, all types
Dave Reid - 760.728.7996

San Diego West County, all types
Jean Beck - 619.435.8211

San Diego Central, Outdoor, all types
Jim Wright - 619.276.5295
Fred Tomaschke - 619.276.3225

San Diego East County, all types
James Masst - 619.443.2800
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Beginners/Novice Meeting

August 7, 2001, 6:30 PM
Casa Del Prado, Room 104
by [Ivan Harrison](#)

Ivan Harrison, newly elected Second Vice-President, will be bringing a different format to the Beginners' Meeting starting next month. Topics will be geared to guiding newcomers through the often-intimidating world of orchid growing. Just pronouncing the name of a new purchase can seem an insurmountable hurdle, never mind approaching one of the SDCOS gurus for help! There will be a 30-minute speaker, followed by a 15-minute question and answer session. If the guest speaker does not know the answer, Ivan will find out for you. Bring in a plant that you are particularly proud of and share your success with your fellow novices, or one that's giving you problems. (If you have a sick plant, please bring it in a plastic bag to minimize spread of diseases.)

Next meeting Ivan will speak about his experiences as a novice in the wonderful world of orchids "A Beginner's Look at Orchid Collecting – Some Truths and Some Consequences". There will also be a drawing for four entrance tickets (including bus tour and sky ride) to the San Diego Zoo – to be used before December 31, 2001. The Orchid House at the Zoo is open to visitors only on the third Friday of each month (10am-4pm) and is home to many endangered orchid species.

As 2nd VP, Ivan is here to help, to involve you in the Society, to find answers to your questions, and, most of all, to encourage and foster your enthusiasm for and knowledge of orchids. There is a special welcome for all new members, as this is your meeting. If you have joined SDCOS within the past year or two, or if you still consider yourself to be a novice, we hope that you will be able to attend. See you there!

New Members

I ask that you take some time to give them all a warm "hello!"

FELISA ACANTILADO
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DAWN TACKETT
GAY & TERRY TANBER
TERESA & PAUL TAYLOR
JUDITH TWEED
CHARLES WARREN

Our Society thrives on membership participation. We hope you will let us all get to know you better through your participation in our upcoming shows, meetings, and events.

ORCHID SPECIES

CULTURE: *Oncidium onustum* Lindley

from www.orchidculture.com

by Charles and Margaret Baker

AKA: *Oncidium holochrysum* Rchb. f.

ORIGIN/HABITAT: Ecuador and Peru. Plants grow in the humid coastal lowlands of western Ecuador and northwestern Peru in areas where scant rainfall occurs. They are found on both cactus and trees in dry forests, usually near sea level, but collections as high 3950 ft. (0-1200 m) have been reported.

Cultural Recommendations:

LIGHT: 2500-3500 fc. As high as the plant can tolerate, but light should be increased gradually and plants should be watched for signs of possible sunburn. Strong air movement should be provided at all times. Many species seem to flower better in bright light than in a more shaded situation.

TEMPERATURES: Throughout the year, days average 83-86F (28-30C), and nights average 67-71F (20-22C), with a diurnal range of 14-17F (8-9C). Because of the relatively wide range in habitat elevation, plants should adapt to conditions 8-10F (4-6C) cooler than indicated.

HUMIDITY: 75-80% year-round. In the habitat, values are near 100% in the late night and early morning hours but fall rapidly as temperatures warm after sunrise.

WATER: Rainfall is very light throughout the year. Additional moisture is available from heavy deposits of dew and late-night mist. Cultivated plants will probably grow better if for most of the year they are misted every morning, but the frequency of the mistings should usually be increased somewhat in summer and decreased slightly in winter.

FERTILIZER: 1/4-1/2 recommended strength, applied weekly when plants are actively growing. A high-nitrogen fertilizer is beneficial from spring to midsummer, but a fertilizer high in phosphates should be used in late summer and autumn.

REST PERIOD: Growing conditions should be maintained all year. Water may be reduced especially during periods of dark, cold weather, but plants should not be allowed to remain completely

dry for long periods. Fertilizer should be reduced or eliminated until new growth begins in spring.

GROWING MEDIA: Plants are probably best grown and more easily managed if mounted tightly to a tree-fern or cork slab. If mounted, however, high humidity must be maintained and the plants watered at least once daily in summer. Several waterings a day may be necessary for mounted plants during extremely hot, dry weather. Plants may also be grown in pots or baskets filled with an open, fast-draining medium that allows the roots to dry rapidly after watering. Repotting or dividing should be done only when new root growth is just starting, which allows the plant to become established in the shortest possible time with the least amount of stress.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES: The bloom season shown in the climate table is based on cultivation records. In the habitat, these plants bloom from autumn to midwinter.

Plant and Flower Information:

PLANT SIZE AND TYPE: A small, clump-forming epiphyte 5 in. (12 cm) tall. Growths are closely spaced along a creeping rhizome.

PSEUDOBULB: 1.2 in. (3 cm) tall by 0.8 in. (2 cm) across. The egg- or pear-shaped pseudobulbs, which are lightly flattened, are green with irregular brown-black markings. Each pseudobulb is protected by well-developed leaflike sheaths at the base.

LEAVES: 1. The leaf, which is carried at the apex of the pseudobulb, is stiff, erect, 3.5-4.0 in. (9-10 cm) long, 0.5-0.6 in. (1.2-1.5 cm) wide, thick, leathery, sharply pointed at the tip, and folded at the base. It has a longitudinal groove down the center on the upper surface with a corresponding keel on the lower surface.

INFLORESCENCE: 8-10 in. (20-25 cm) long. The rather stiff, erect-arching peduncle emerges from the base of the pseudobulb along the longitudinal fold in the leaflike sheath.

FLOWERS: 8-14. Yellow blossoms are carried on a nicely spaced raceme along the upper half of the flower spike. Flowers are 0.8 in. (2 cm) across, 1 in. (2.5 cm) tall, and open fully. The triangular, sharply pointed sepals are bright yellow with a central reddish line. The large, almost round, bluntly tipped petals are cadmium yellow with fine red spots on the basal portion. The 3-lobed, cadmium yellow lip is wider across the sidelobes than across the midlobe. The pale brown callus is spotted with very small red dots. The green column has bright yellow wings marked with red spots. The anther is cadmium yellow.

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2002 ORCHID SHOW

By Ben Machado
Show Chairman

Time is coming to a close for submitting your best recommendation for a show theme. The cut off date is Sunday, August the 5th. That will give enough time to compile all the suggestions for membership voting at the August 7th General Meeting. After the break, the winner will be announced and handed a \$100 gift certificate good for redemption at any vendor advertising in the August edition of our newsletter.

Let your imagination run wild, there is no general guideline, anything that has a ring that you like is eligible for submission. Forward your entry to Ben Machado, (619)660-9810 voice/fax, e-mail bmach16814@aol.com.

Several members have asked about previous show theme names, to give a clue of what has been used in the past. Here's the best I could find in the archives (my tee shirt drawer).

- 1996 Golden Anniversary
- 1997 Orchids Ole
- 1998 Jungle Gems
- 1999 Orchid Oasis
- 2000 Odyssey 2000
- 2001 -no show theme-

ORCHID QUIZ

FILL IN THE BLANKS

Orchids are _____

(A) fun (B) a mystery (C) challenging

Orchids make me _____

(A) happy (B) romantic (C) relaxed

I am interested in _____

(A) growing (B) collecting (C) learning

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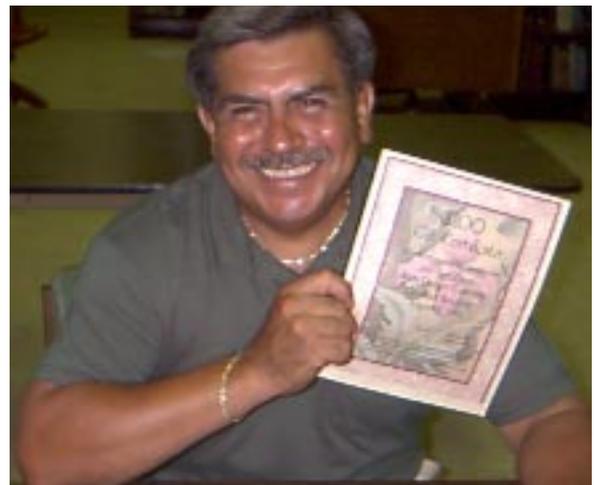
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SDCOS Board of Directors Meeting

July 10, 2001. Meeting called to order at 19:04.

Present: Gary Pierwola, Barbie Mays, Dave Mays, Ben Machado, Loren Batchman, Dave Graham, Ivan Harris, Alma Marosz, and Siv Garrod.

REPORTS

1. Last meetings minutes were read, and approved by motion.
2. Treasurer - Barbie Mays - Reports for July were presented, and approved by motion.
3. First vice president – Ben Machado – Jim Cootes from Australia will give a talk about Philippine orchids at the August meeting. Crest Orchids will provide the plant table.
4. Second vice president – Ivan Harris – Ivan will present “Beginners look at orchid collections, some truths and consequences”. He will implement ways of getting to know people during the novice class.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Bob Hodges is working with the park official to get the permission to install a ledge on the pillar to be used for the projector. If granted, SDCOS have the installation.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Alma Marosz and Siv Garrod brought up the question on where the societies archives are housed. Ben Hardy is the historian and he will be contacted to fine out what he has. In the meantime Barbie Mays has the last 3 years of board meeting minutes submitted by Siv.
2. David Graham suggested a contest for best orchid brought in by an amateur at our meetings to encourage people to bring in plants for show and tell. Each person will choose one of their plants to be set on a separate table. Members will vote by numbers using the ticket they receive for wearing a badge or nametag. The winner of the contest will pick a plant from the plant table. The idea was approved by motion.

SHOW BUSINESS

1. Ben Machado presented the 2002 show budget with an increase of 10% from last year's budget. Some changes will be made in the advertisement to maximize the show's exposure.
2. Ivan Harris suggested that the members who bring in

plants for display will be given a 3 day pass to the show, this was approved by motion.

3. Ben suggested that next years program will be made into a nice glossy program with place for advertisements. Vendors were canvassed last year and were in favor of this idea. Approved by motion.

Meeting adjourned 20:02

Submitted by Siv Garrod (Romy Reyes sick)

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SDCOS 2002

Orchid Show Proposed Budget

ITEM	2001 EXPENSE	2001 INCOME	2002 PROPOSED EXPENSE	2002 PROPOSED INCOME
VENUE	\$12,842.00	\$18,350.00	\$14,126.20	\$18,925.00
CATERING/FOOD	3,947.92	1,526.00	4,342.71	1,526.00
POSTERS, TICKETS, COUPONS & ARTWORK	5,800.45		5,084.38	
TICKET SALES	3,057.03	30,765.60	3,092.28	29,387.10
AWARDS/TROPHIES /RIBBONS	6,202.89	386.00	8,109.92	520.40
PROGRAM			5,000.00	4,000.00
SHOW CONSTRUCTION & SECURITY	3,954.51	76.00	4,349.96	83.60
PUBLICITY	7,785.15		12,253.09	
CORSAGE BOOTH	367.94	1,153.00	404.73	1,268.30
PHOTOGRAPHY	452.33		497.56	
CONSERVATION GROUP SALES	43.12	6,920.00	47.43	7,612.00
T-SHIRTS/POLOS/SALES	3,681.57	2,318.50	1,004.45	2,550.35
SHOW ADMINISTRATION	681.97		750.17	
GRAND TOTAL	\$49,970.78	\$61,505.10	\$59,710.88	\$65,882.75

SHOW BUDGET

Above is the SDCOS 2002 Orchid Show Proposed Budget. The detailed budget was reviewed and accepted by your Board of Directors at the July 10, 2001 meeting. The General Membership will be asked to accept the budget at the August 7, 2001 meeting. The floor will be open for discussion prior to the vote, please have your questions or concerns ready in advance of the meeting.

Here are the primary factors used to develop the Show Budget:

1. The actual expenses of the 2001 show were increased by 10% to allow sufficient coverage for inflation.
2. One to two tabletop vendors will be added to the vendor's list.
3. Free Membership Admission: Your Board of Directors

agreed to free admission for every member who registers a plant for showing.

4. Most of the increase for Awards and Trophies was due to the increased cost of the glassware. The glassware budget was increased by 40% to cover manufacturing increases.
5. Publicity was increased by \$4,000 to buy TV and Radio advertising.
6. Tee shirts will again be given to each of the volunteers.
7. A budget is proposed for a formal, quality standard program to be handed out to each visitor. Initial vendor queries have been very positive about buying advertising space.
8. Fewer discount coupons will need to be printed because the simple flyer went over so well last year.

When Should You Cut That Phalaenopsis Flower Spike?

Submitted by Cindy Hill. Excerpted from Phalaenopsis Notes published by Frier's Orchids, Park Ridge NJ

In June, the flowers on your Phalaenopsis may still look beautiful, but perhaps the plants should be growing new leaves instead of supporting its flowers. Should you cut the spike? If your plant is blooming for the first time, the answer is almost always yes. The plant should be allowed to grow to maturity and provide a better flower display next year.

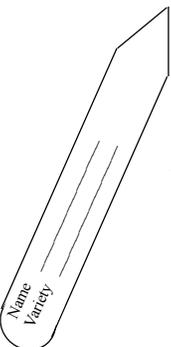
The only exceptions would be the violacea-type Phalaenopsis, such as Orchid World, Cordova, Sweet Memory and the like. These plants bloom from old spikes as well as the ones they grow in the current season. Unlike other Phalaenopsis, they seem to be able to pace themselves between flowering and growing vegetatively.

Most other Phals want to bloom themselves to death and need some regulatory assistance from you. On mature plants that have a leaf span of at least a foot, tip to tip, you should be getting 2 or even 3 bloomings a year. Traditional Phals, including the spotted hybrids, will bloom for the first time in their season, during winter. When those flowers fade, the plant will form more flower buds on the end of the spike or will start a new side spike below the fading flowers. This new spike should flower in April/May. It takes about 3 months from the time you first notice new bud activity until the buds develop into blooms. After all this is over, some particularly persistent plants will start a new spike from the base of the plant, especially if the nights are cool. (The old maxim of cool temperatures causing spike set is true.)

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Regardless of what happens, as soon as the flowers from the second flowering are on their way out, the plant should be repotted. Mature Phals require a change of potting medium every two years. They don't necessarily need a bigger pot, just fresh medium. In fact, mature plants resent over-potting. An over-potted plant takes a long time to become established.

You can minimize transplant shock by doing two things: soaking the bark for several hours or overnight and potting in the correct size container for the root spread. Pots should only comfortably hold the spread roots.

Perhaps your plants have not even started to set spikes. Except for summer blooming species and their primary hybrids, Phals should be showing spikes by December 15. To encourage a reluctant bloomer, be sure to check that your day-night temperature differential is at least 20 degrees consistently during October and November. Sometimes the dull days of fall are deceptive because the days don't get bright and warm enough to give you enough temperature drop even though you do reduce the temperature at night. A min-max thermometer will help you check that you are getting the right temperature drop to set the spike.

If you have a few plants which refuse to set spikes regardless of what you try, check the plants' parentage to determine if they have inherited a slow-maturing characteristic. Yellows can be slow to mature, or just spike in midwinter and bloom in April or May. Hard-substanced, star-shaped novelties are another example of plants slow to bloom. Examples of quick and ready bloomers include equestris hybrids, spotted multifloras, and whites and pinks crossed back to these two. Standard Phals may need an extra year to reach the 12-14" leafspread some need to bloom.

The better your light source, the more flowers and/or branching you will get on the spike. I find that about 1,000 footcandles of light gives the right balance of flower count against an attractive looking plant. Light levels beyond 1500 footcandles produce unsightly looking plants with reduced leaf size. These plants seem to have reduced chlorophyll levels because the leaves are usually yellowish or reddish gray. Not a very satisfactory house plant!

Moving a reluctant bloomer to a higher light level for a few weeks may give it the impetus to set a spike. If you do get spike set, reduce the light level and raise the night temperature for best development of the spike and subsequent flowers. If this extra attention does not produce results, the plant may not be worth keeping. Sometimes the threat of the "compost pile" produces results!



Cliff & Marilyn Lanoue

and to Jean Cemans (not pictured), we thank you for

all of your help each month with the coffee and doughnuts!

17th Annual WOC Chair: Conception Boyd

by Michael Orser

The 17th World Orchid Congress will be held this year in Shah Alam, Malaysia. Conception Boyd will be the Chairperson for the first session of the symposium entitled: Orchid Science Made Easy.

Let's all give a big congratulation to Conception for the honor!

ORCHID SPECIES PICTURE: *Oncidium onustum* Lindley

Please see the article on page 8



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Conjugal Beds

For Husband-and-Wife Plant Collectors, One Yard Simply Isn't Enough
From *Metropolis* by Leslee Komaiko

To call Jim and Lise Wright the Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo of plant collectors wouldn't be too farfetched. After all, the adjacent homes of painting's legendary couple still draw tourists in Mexico City, and the gardens at the Wrights' side-by-side houses sometimes slow traffic in the Bay Park suburb of San Diego.

From the street, the house where the Wrights live is more or less hidden behind Jim's palm tree collection, while Lise's garden is a riot of color at the house next door, which the couple rents out. "It's a compulsion," says Lise, 48. "You need to put another quarter in the slot machine. You can't stop buying more things."

Jim bought the "palm house" in the 1960s when he was already sweet on palms. The 58 year-old retired medical research technician now has about 75 species. Stacks of palm journals beckon from the kitchen; the latest issue of "The Palm Journal" reposes in the bathroom; and Jim's license plate reads "SD [for San Diego] PALMS." Jim also grows nearly 200 orchid varieties behind the house.

Today Lise has a degree in environmental design and works in landscaping, but when she met Jim in 1977, she didn't have that much of an interest "in plants. Lise had an epiphany at a rose society show and now has about 150 varieties of roses and a collection of about 70 day lily varieties.



The Wrights have their limits, however. "There are people," says Jim, "who wouldn't hesitate to spend a couple thousand dollars on a given plant." The most either has paid for a plant is \$140, since they prefer to start with young plants. "Imagine adopting a 21 year-old-child," Lise says. "What's the point?"

The Wrights deal mainly with nurseries and fellow plant society members. With foreign sellers, "you don't know if [the plants] are wild or cultivated," explains Jim. "They could be protected." He makes an exception for

conservation, citing the fan palm from Guadalupe Island south of San Diego. "It's going to be extinct because goats eat all the seedlings, "A healthy specimen is flourishing near Jim's kitchen.

Unlike more entrepreneurial collectors, who log purchases and grow in containers for easy salability, the Wrights collect to make their gardens "as beautiful as possible," says Jim. There's also the pride of nurturing a hard-to grow plant and the thrill of acquiring a rare find.

Lise concedes that she and Jim are each "kind of possessive" about their turf. "Jim will want to get something and he'll ask if he can put it (in her garden). And I'll have to be the warden." When the Wrights travel, it's not for long. If your collection is alive, says Lise, "you have to be kind of a homebody."



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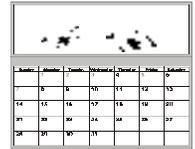
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DATES TO REMEMBER...



August	September	October	November	December
1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30
31				

August 4th, 9:00 am
SDCOS Species Group Meeting
First Saturday each month
Paul or Ann Tuskes 858.274.5829

August 7th, 6:30 pm
Beginner's Class
Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park
Gary Pierwola 619.426.9108

August 7th, 7:30 pm
General Meeting
Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park
Gary Pierwola 619.426.9108

August 10th, 7:30 pm
Palomar Orchid Society Meeting
Second Friday each month
Vista Community Center
Dave or Vera Stankey 959.498.7122

August 14th, 7:00 pm
SDCOS Board Meeting
Second Tuesday each month
Balboa Park
Siv Garrod 619.483.8787

August 15th
Cymbidium Society Meeting
Third Wednesday each month
Carlsbad Women's Club
Larry Phillips 619.746.5518

August 17th
Zoo Orchid Greenhouses Open House
Third Friday each month
Janette Gerrity 619.231.1515 ext. 4306

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2002 Board Members Sworn in at Last General Meeting



Pictured, from left to right, are: Loren Batchman, Barbie Mays, Siv Garrod, Ben Machado, Gary Pierwola, David Graham, and Ivan Harrison.

THANK YOU!

by Marjorie Kuhlmann

Thank you to all the great members who called and came up to me in the meeting to volunteer to help out with the mailing of our Newsletter.

I made arrangements with Ida O'Neil, Helen Odum and Ethel Warner and they came last month and this month to learn all the how to's and will take over in August for the mailing of the September Newsletter. They have even volunteered to help each month! It took 4 of us 2 1/2 hours to do the mailing, whereas it would take me 1 1/2 days to do it on my own (and it's a lot more fun!). Again, thanks for coming forward and offering a hand...it's greatly appreciated.



Membership Chairman - [Vivian Follmer](#)
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